Neagle G. C. (711)

Phila Nov 22/75

Nov 23/75,

With regard to the
Dearborn patent.

✓

You speak of its being so inferior to the famous "Skippen" portrait, that might be and still be a fine painting.- All artists, at some times, paint better than at others. I saw an illustration of this only a day or two since, when called upon to witness two paintings by the late Thos. Sully, one was painted in the year 1846 and the other in 1864 and strange to say, that while both were beautifully executed, the one painted in 1864, being about Eight years prior to his death and then over 80 years of age- was far superior as a work of art, to the one painted 26 years prior to his death- both pictures bearing his endorsement with date &c.- The Endorsement on the back of the "Dearborn" portrait is in my fathers hand-writing, this much I can vouch for. I would rather that your Committee would purchase the picture for the price named $ 400.- as it has been in your possession for a long time, and in so doing, there will be no additional expense to you incurred in expressing it back to me.-

Please let me hear from you by Thursday or Friday of this week, if possible?-

And oblige

Yours truly,

Garrett C. Neagle.

P.S. Have you any paintings by my father in the "Corcoran Gallery of Art" if so, will you be good enough to name them, & give me a catalogue?-

I have a beautiful copy by him of Sir Thos. Lawrence's fine portrait of the late Robt. Gilmor of Baltimore- do you think that the Art Com. would purchase it at this time?

G. C. N.

Rec'd & Ack'd
Nov. 23/75-

No. 226 South Third St.
Philad'a Nov. 22. 1875.

William MacLeod, Esq.
Curator of "Corcoran Gallery of Art"
Washington D.C.-

My dear Sir.

Yours of the 15th inst. in ref-
=erence to the "Dearborn" portrait by Stuart, was
received in due time. I have delayed answering it
sooner, for the reason that I have had an offer for
it here, but the would be purchaser is hesitating
between $ 375. and $ 400.- the last named, being
the price I want for it.-

I am sorry that I cannot give you any
authentic proof that it is the work of "Stuart"-
with you, I <u>believe it is</u>.- There is not the least
doubt in my mind about it. My Father, the late
John Neagle who was a pupil of Stuart, consid-
=ered it a fine specimen of his, as also, did my
Grandfather the late Thomas Sully. It was
seen by many leading Artists and Art critics at
the sale of Thos. Sully's private collection of paint-
=ings & engravings after his death, Dec. 1872- and was
much admired, and would have then been sold
but my limit on it was $ 600.- and the time
being a bad one for the sale of paintings.

You speak of it being so inferior to the famous "Skippen" portrait, that might be and still be a fine painting.- all artists, at some times, paint better than at others. I saw an illustration of this only a day or two since, when called upon to witness two paintings by the late Thos. Sully, one was painted in the year 1846 and the other in 1864 and strange to say, that while both were beautifully executed, the one painted in 1864, being about Eight years prior to his death and then over 80 years of age- was far superior as a work of art, to the one painted 26 years prior to his death- both pictures bearing his endorsement with date &c.- The endorsement on the back of the "Dearborn" portrait is in my fathers hand-writing, this much I can vouch for. I would rather that your Committee would purchase the picture for the price named $ 400.- as it has been in your possession for a long time, and in so doing, there will be no additional expense to you incurred in expressing it back to me.-

Please let me hear from you by Thursday or Friday of this week, if possible?-

And oblige

Yours truly,

Garrett C. Neagle.

P.S. Have you any paintings by my father in the "Corcoran Gallery of Art" if so, will you be good enough to name them, & give me a catalogue?-

I have a beautiful copy by him of Sir Thos. Lawrence's fine portrait of the late Robt. Gilmor of Baltimore- do you think that the Art Com. would purchase it at this time?

G.C.N.

Neagle J. C. (711)

Phila Nov 22/75

Nov 23/75,

With regard to the
Dearborn portrait.

✓

(772)

Neagle G. C,

Phila Nov 24. 1875,

Nov 25/26/75,

Wishes $400 for the "Dear-
=born. or $500 for the "Dear-
=born & Letcher.

V

when I say that $ 400.- is a very reasonable figure for a Stuart-picture, and as good a specimen as the one now before you. I suppose that $ 1000.- would not purchase the "Skipper picture.

You will certainly not object giving me $ 400.- for the Dearborn. It has been in our family for at least 40 years, and there is no doubt of its being a genuine Stuart.

As to the Col. Johnson portrait, I cannot say to a certainty, as there was a copy made by one of Fathers pupils. The original picture I know, was sold to a gentleman of this city, when Fathers effects were disposed of at auction, at the same time was sold an original portrait of Ex. Gov. Letcher of Ky. this last named, is at present in my possession. this picture was also, copied. Would you like to have the one I have? I will dispose of it for $ 125.- It is a bold head, in my fathers best style.

Take the "Dearborn and Letcher" for $ 500.-

Please let me hear from you at your Early convenience, and believe me,

Yours Very truly,
Garrett C. Neagle.

11

Rec'd Nov. 25/75
Wrote Nov. 26/75

No. 226 South Third St.
Philad.a Nov. 24/75.

William MacLeod, Esq.
Curator of
"Corcoran Gallery of Art."
Washington D.C.

My dear Sir,

Yours of yesterday is at hand. You have been misinformed as to the price of the "Dearborn" picture, as I have never offered it to any one for $200.- You have confounded it with the "Jefferson and Jackson" portraits which were rated at that figure. In yours of April 7th. ult.o you asked the price of the "Jackson", that being the only one that the Secretary of War desired to have, He then offering $200.- for it and frame.- In answer thereto, I wrote Apl. 8th. stating "that I would accept the price named viz: $200.- for the "Jackson" portrait, but I never offered to dispose of the "Dearborn" for a like amount.

I have, my dear Sir, a standing offer here of $250.- for it and a still later one of $375. as I informed you yesterday.

My dear Sir, you and the Gentlemen comprising the Committee, being excellent judges of the Fine Arts, will surely agree with me

Lansburgh Bro. (713)

Nov 26. 1873.

Nov 26/73.

Encloses Invoice of Drajonar. price 47½ ¢ per yard.

✓

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

713

Rec'd Nov. 26/75

Lansburgh & Brother

Dry Goods,

Nos. 404 & 406 Seventh Street,

Washington, D. C. Nov 26 1875

Mr. W. Macleod

Dear Sir

We have you herewith Invoice of Diagonals. We are very much pleased with the color and you will be as well. We came as near as we could to 500 Yds and kept them at 44½ Cts 2½ Cts less than bargained for. Soliciting your future Kind orders and promising to do as well as any House in the Country

We Remain

Respectfully

Yours

Lansburgh & Bro

Shedd. Mrs Julia A. (714)
Providence R. I.
Nov. 25. 1875

Nov 27/24/75,

Has Read Photographs &
enclosr. $2.10,

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

714

Rec'd Acknowd
Nov 27/75

Providence R. I. Nov. 25/75

Mr. Macleod,

Dear Sir,

The photographs of "Charlotte Corday" and "Sun and Light" were duly rec'd for which please accept our thanks. They are both admirable.

Did you mean the painting by Meissonier of which we saw a pho-

safe arrival of the new pieces of sculpture.

The list of photographs and prices which you mentioned in your letter are not rec'd.

Enclosed please find $2.10 for pictures and stamps. In sending photographs in the future will you please to send them large unmounted, as the cards get crushed in the mail.

Respectfully and truly yours
Julia A. Shedd.

Speak, or is that the one finished & purchased by C. Y. Clement for Lincoln Park entrance?

I hope I shall not trouble you much upon this and hereafter if I send to you occasionally for information concerning new acquisitions at the Corcoran Gallery. I shall not ~~the~~ forget my promise with pleasure as one of the interesting duties of my position. I am especially desirous to learn of the

(715)

Neagle. J. C.

Nov 26. 1875.

Nov 27
Dec 2/75.

If the Dearborn is purchased for $400. will present the Jackson.

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

Rec'd Nov 27
Ans'd Dec 2

No 226 South Third St. -
Philad.a November 26 1875.

William MacLeod, Esq.
My dear Sir,

Yours of yesterday is received.

I hope that you will not think that there being a chance to dispose of my portrait of Genl. Dearborn by Stuart, that I have taken advantage of it by advancing my price on it, Such is not the case, I can assure you. -

I am sorry that I have not made the matter clear- er than I seem to have done. - The impression or understanding that I would dispose of the Dearborn portrait for the sum of $200.- arose, no doubt, from the contents of a letter from me to the Hon: J.O. Howe, (Copy enclosed) under date of March 10th. 75. in which after having offered these two portraits in question, viz: Jackson and Dearborn to the Library Committee of Congress for a much higher figure, on another occasion, concluded as per the letter above referred to, rather than to allow an opportunity of selling to pass by, to present the Jackson portrait to the Committee, should they purchase the Dearborn for $400.- — I cannot find a copy of my letter to Mr. Clark, of March 9th. being the day before the one above alluded to was written, and to which you refer and quote, but it was based upon this letter of Mar. 10th. to Mr. Howe. -

I wrote to Mr. Leonard Myers, on Feb.y 10/74. offering the Dearborn to the Library Committee for $800.- again, I wrote to Mr. Howe, May 26. 1874. he being Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library, accepting his offer of $200.- for the Jefferson portrait and then offered to sell the portrait of Dearborn at the still reduced figure of $500.-

Yours of April 2/75. stating that the Secretary of War wished the Jackson picture and would pay $200.- for it,

(Copy)

Philad.a March 2/75

Edwd. Clark, Esq.-
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir.

Mr Spofford wrote me last week that the "Library Committee" had decided not to purchase the portraits of Jackson and Dearborn - I wrote to the Hon: Heister Clymer, Yesterday, offering them to the Committee at a lower figure, Should they still decline to purchase, will you do me the favor to placing them with the boxes or frames under your care, until further advised by me, & Oblige

Yours truly,
G.C. Neagle.

N.B. The price offered to Mr. Clymer was the same as to Mr. Howe as per my letter to that gentleman March 10/75 - See copy Enclosed. G.C.N.

(Copy)

Architects Office U. S. Capitol
Washington D.C. March 22/95

G. C. Meagle, Esq. Philad.a Pa.

My dear Sir.

In compliance with your request, I have had the Portraits of Generals Jackson & Dearborn removed from the room of the Committee on the Library to the Corcoran Gallery of Art, that being the safest place in my opinion for the Storage of paintings.

Should you wish any other disposition made of them please let me know.

I have just been informed by the Curator of that Institution, that the Art Committee is of the opinion that the Dearborn Portrait is not an original picture by Stuart.

If you have any means of authenticating it, I wish you would send it to H. McLeod, Esq. Curator at the Corcoran Art Gallery.

Very respfy
Yours &c.
Signed, Edward Clark
Architect.

(Copy)

Philada Pa March 10/75

Hon. J. A. Hare.

Washington D. C.

My dear Sir. On the 4th inst. I wrote to the Hon: Heister Clymer under the impression that he was Chairman of the "Library Com. of Congress," in which I offered to present to the Committee, the portrait of Genl. Jackson, with frame, Should they purchase the one of Genl. Dearborn by Stuart, for the sum of $ 400.- He wrote me in reply on the 6th inst. regretting that my proposition came so late in the Session &c, and concluded by saying that he would refer the matter to you, being Chairman.-

Previous to my last proposition to the Committee Mr. Shotford, wrote me "that the Chairman wished the two pictures removed from the Committee's room.

I have placed these pictures in the care of Mr. Edwd Clark, Architect who has kindly consented to hold them for me, and if removed, they are in his care.

Should you as Chairman of the present Committee, which went into effect on the 4th inst. conclude to accept my offer, the pictures are still at your disposal. The Jackson picture is a match one to the Jefferson purchased by you last year for $ 200.- and the one of Dearborn by Stuart, is worth about double of what I now ask.- Both pictures have neat frames.

Your very truly,

G. C. Mason.

in reply thereto. I accepted his offer, but nothing was said by me about the Dearborn for the reason that the concluding paragraph in said letter read thus, "The Art Committee is not inclined to purchase the Dearborn", thereby inferring, that they had finally decided not to purchase, and the matter was at rest. I believe that my next letter in reference to it was to Mr. Clark, to have the same returned to me, which was but a short time since.

I wrote you on March 29/75. that Mr. Clark had informed me that he had placed the Jackson & Dearborn, in your care at the "Corcoran Gallery of Art," then giving you a description of each picture, particularly the Dearborn by Stuart, which your Committee had doubts about its being an original and in that letter I closed by stating that the limit placed upon it by me at the sale of Mr. Sully's collection of paintings &c. was $ 800.- This picture is very, very reasonable at the price I ask, viz: $ 400.- and I trust that the Committee may re-consider the matter and purchase it as I should like its destination to be in the Corcoran Gallery of Art.-

I thank you kindly, my dear sir, for the interest that you have taken and hope that in your interviews with Mr. Corcoran may terminate in its purchase at the price above named viz: $ 400.-

Should Mr. Corcoran or the Art Committee accept or decline purchasing, be good Enough to write me by Wednesday of the coming week, if convenient.-

and oblige

Yours very truly,
Garrett C. Neagle.

11

Le Conte. Miss Eva. (716)

Nov 27/75

Nov 27/75.

Wishes to Copy in Gallery.

✓

Recd. Augt. Nov. 27/75.

Gentlemen —

I wish to avail myself of the privelege of copying from the casts, bronzes & paintings in the gallery & desire to have your permission to do so under the regulations which I have signed — Eva Le Conte

Nov 27th —

Sister J. Hope (717)
Zanesville O,
Nov 27, 1875

Nov 29/75.

Asks price of Photographs.

✓

Rec'd Nov. 29/75

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company.

Ohio and Chicago Divisons.

OFFICE MASTER OF ROAD,

DAVID LEE,
M. of R.

ZANESVILLE, O., Nov. 27 1875.

Curator,
Corcoran Gallery of Art,
Washington D.C.,
Dear Sir:

I noticed in Appletons "Art Journal", some time since, that photographs of the choice works in your gallery have been made and are for sale.

I should be pleased to be made acquainted with the terms, sizes &c. and enclose stamp for answer.

Respy yours,
J. Hope Supt.

Lock Box 1088.

(718)

Stewart Jos J.

Balt. Nov 29/75

149 Candler Av.

Nov 30
Dec 2/75.

Will take $800 for the Pulaski Bust.

V

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

Recd Nov. 30
Ack'd Dec. 2/75

No 149 Carrollton Ave
Baltimore Nov 29th 1875

William Macleod Esq
Curator Corcoran Art Gallery,
Dear Sir

In response to the inquiry contained in your favor of the 27th inst just received, I would say that while I had hoped to realize at least $1000 for the Pulaski bust, (and to sell it for less involves loss) if the gentlemen of the Corcoran think they cannot give so much, I am willing to take $800, rather than fail in securing a position for it where its merits can be seen and appreciated by lovers of art and admirers of the hero who lost his life for the republic. The block of marble cost $500 - and you thereby get over two years of art labor resulting in a beautiful work for $300. Let me hear from you at your earliest convenience. Yours Resp'y

Jos. D. Stewart

Ford. S. Calvert. (719)

Dec 2. 1873.

To D. Hall,

Answer to question
Is gas injurious to paintings?

✓

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

OFFICE

U. S. Inspector of Gas and Meters,

No. 403 TENTH STREET,

Washington, D. C., December 2d 1875

Doctor James C. Hall.

Dear Sir,

In answer to your inquiry whether the use of coal gas, for illuminating purposes in the Corcoran Art-Gallery, would owing to the Sulphureous Compounds contained in the gas be a cause of injury to the paintings -

I will state that I believe, there is no danger, if the Gallery is well ventilated, and as long as the gas is as well purified as it is at present. The law of Congress requires that the gas, shall not contain more than 20 grains of Sulphur in any form in one hundred cubic feet, and the gas now furnished by the Washington Gas Light Company does not contain on an average 10.52 grains of sulphur in one hundred cubic feet.

From tests made with solutions of acetate of lead, and Nitrate of silver,

in distilled water, I do not find the presence of sulphuretted hydrogen in the gas, this being the sulphur compound which renders Coal gas so injurious to life, occasioning suffocating vapors, like those arising from burning of brimstone, it tarnishes metals, changes the color of most kinds of paints, and furniture hangings —

Very respectfully
Your Obt: Servant
S. Calvert, Ford.
Inspector of Gas & Meters

Walters W. J. (720)

Balt Dec 3. 1875

Dec 4/75
4/

Encloses letter from Mr Lucas.

Pictures & Vase will arrive in a few days.

I

CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Return, if not called for in 5 days.

Rec'd Sept. 11
Dec 4/1795

Mr. MacLeod

Send you letter from Mr Lucas, provincial Secretary

You should receive that Thing by this day week

Seamew is due any day after today — rough weather may make some detention — will attend to forwarding at first possible moment —

Yours W. Wallace

Rec'd Dec. 11/75

Paris November 12th 1875.

Mr. W. T. Walters
Trustee -

I received yours of 29th October 12 hours after receiving letter same date from Mr Riggs - enclosing bill of Exchange for 1000 Fr -

The Detaille bust arrived from Brussels is packed & will leave tomorrow to be shipped on the Leipzig from Southampton 20th November - with it I will send also a very fine Dec'd Vase which I have bought - for it and another Constituting a pair he asked 6000 fr, or 3500 for the one

moulds are bought by Tom, Dick & Harry - they would be inferior Bargi Bronzes -

By next Steamer it is possible that I may have ready the Michael Angelo Cast - may be some others but there is nothing Certain -

The Louvre has no cast of an augustus in Military Costumes -

Your friend
Geo. A. Lucas

I bot which was much the finer, and 250 for the other, had a great deal of difficulty in getting it - after explaining it would be a permanent advertisement for him in america I got him down to 2000 fs when I offered him 1500 fs which he refused & it was only after showing and giving him the Stereoscope which you sent me of the building & Hall in which he recognised the first vase that he consented to accept my offer of 1500 - It would be well if you have other views to send me some to be used in such cases -

The Bayé Ex is to open "they say" about 20th Nov^{br} to last a Month - It is to be composed of a full set of his Bronzes left by him in his rooms - a painting by him of a Lion - Aquarell - plastes &c - after the Ex a sale is to be made by Durand Ruel of everything he leaves - including the Moulds - provided no one person or persons is found before the sale to purchase them "in block" no doubt there will be somethings - may be plastes that the Corcoran Should have but as the Ex will last a month I will have time to communicate with you about it -

would it be well to buy more bronzes to make the set more complete for when the

720.

Rec'd Dec. 4/75

21 Rue de l'arc. de Triomphe
Paris
16th November 1875.

Wm. Wm. T. Walters.
Trustee Corcoran Gallery of Art.

Dear Sir

I enclose you copy of invoice of 2 cases for the Corcoran Gallery of Art. These cases will be shipped on the Steamer Leipzig. Sailing from Southampton the 20th November.

The Catalogues will be found in the hollow portion of the back of the frame.

Yours most truly
C. A. Lucas